

1 What is claimed is:

- 2
- 3 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
- 4 a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
- 5 or SEQ ID NO:3;
- 6 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
- 7 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- 8 c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a polypeptide
- 9 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at
- 10 least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2; and
- 11 d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of
- 12 a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the nucleic
- 13 acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, or a
- 14 complement thereof, under stringent conditions.
- 15
- 16 2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the
- 17 group consisting of:
- 18 a) a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
- 19 NO:3; and
- 20 b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino
- 21 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 22
- 23 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid
- 24 sequences.
- 25
- 26 4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid
- 27 sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.
- 28
- 29 5. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
- 30
- 31 6. The host cell of claim 5 which is a mammalian host cell.
- 32

1 7. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of
2 claim 1.

3
4 8. An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

5 a) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a
6 nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3, or a complement thereof.

7 b) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
8 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
9 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID
10 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions; and

11 c) a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
12 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
13 NO:2.

14
15 9. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8 comprising the amino acid sequence of
16 SEQ ID NO:2.

17
18 10. The polypeptide of claim 8 further comprising heterologous amino acid
19 sequences.

20
21 11. An antibody which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8.

22
23 12. A method for producing a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

24 a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

25 b) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
26 NO:2, wherein the fragment comprises at least 285 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID
27 NO:2; and

28 c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino
29 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid
30 molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID
31 NO:3, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions;

32 comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under conditions in which the nucleic
33 acid molecule is expressed.

1
2 13. A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide of claim 8 in a sample,
3 comprising:

- 4 a) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to a
5 polypeptide of claim 8; and
6 b) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.
7

8 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the compound which binds to the
9 polypeptide is an antibody.
10

11 15. A kit comprising a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of
12 claim 8 and instructions for use.
13

14 16. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 in
15 a sample, comprising the steps of:

- 16 a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively
17 hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and
18 b) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid
19 molecule in the sample.
20

21 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules
22 and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.
23

24 18. A kit comprising a compound which selectively hybridizes to a nucleic acid
25 molecule of claim 1 and instructions for use.
26

27 19. A method for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide of claim
28 8 comprising the steps of:

- 29 a) contacting a polypeptide, or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a
30 test compound; and
31 b) determining whether the polypeptide binds to the test compound.
32

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the binding of the test compound to the
2 polypeptide is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:

- 3 a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/polypeptide
4 binding;
5 b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay;
6 c) detection of binding using an assay for 33945-mediated signal transduction.

7
8 21. A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8 comprising
9 contacting a polypeptide or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a compound
10 which binds to the polypeptide in a sufficient concentration to modulate the activity of the
11 polypeptide.

12
13 22. A method for identifying a compound which modulates the activity of a
14 polypeptide of claim 8, comprising:

- 15 a) contacting a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and
16 b) determining the effect of the test compound on the activity of the polypeptide
17 to thereby identify a compound which modulates the activity of the polypeptide.

18
19 23. A composition for treating atherosclerosis or endothelial cell disorders in a
20 subject, comprising a compound which modulates the expression or activity of a 33945
21 nucleic acid molecule or polypeptide.

22
23 24. A method for treating atherosclerosis or endothelial cell disorders in a
24 subject, comprising administering a compound which modulates the expression or activity
25 of a 33945 nucleic acid molecule or polypeptide.